

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert, before the first line on page 1, the sentence:

This Application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/553,100 filed April 20, 2000.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 7, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

One aspect~~The 1st invention~~ of the present invention~~(corresponding to claim 1)~~ is an optical head apparatus, comprising:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 7, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a light reflection element ~~107~~ provided with a peripheral section ~~203~~ that reflects peripheral light of to the light from said semiconductor laser light source and condenses it into said photodetector and a central section ~~202~~ that transmits central light of the light from said semiconductor laser light source; and

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 8, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Another aspect~~The 2nd invention~~ of the present invention~~(corresponding to claim 11)~~ is an optical head apparatus, comprising:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 8, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Still another aspect~~The 3rd invention~~ of the present invention~~(corresponding to claim 12)~~ is an optical head apparatus, comprising:

Please insert before the title DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS on page 13; the sentence:

The entire disclosure of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/553,100, filed April 20, 2000, is expressly incorporated by reference herein.

Please insert before "FIG. 4" on page 17, line 8, these paragraphs:

Figure 16 illustrates a side view of an exemplary embodiment of light reflection element 107. Exemplary light reflection element 107 includes central section 202 and peripheral section 203. Peripheral section 203 desirably reflects peripheral light of the light from a semiconductor laser light source in the exemplary optical head and condenses it into a photodetector. Central section 202 transmits a central light portion of the light from the semiconductor laser light source. As shown in Figure 16, each surface of central section 20 of light reflection element 107 has a flat shape, but the top surface of peripheral section 203 has a spherical or non-spherical curved shape. This spherical or non-spherical curved shape forms a surface of rotation about the central section of the light reflecting element as shown in Figure 2. The cross-sectional shape of peripheral section 203 in a plane perpendicular to a front surface of central section 202 of light reflection element 107 may be seen in Figure 16 to be two sections of a single curve 1600. This single curve 1600 has zero inflection points; i.e. single curve 1600 is concave down at all points.

Figure 17 illustrates a cross-sectional view of a prior art optical element disclosed in US Patent 5,600,621 to Noda et al., which includes a transparent flat plate 1700 and concave mirrors 1702 on the periphery of transparent plate 1700. If single curve 1704 is drawn to include both concave reflecting surfaces of concave mirrors 1702, similarly to how single curve 1600 includes both sections of peripheral section 203 in Figure 16, it is seen that single curve

1704 must include at least two inflection points 1706, where the curvature of single curve 1704 changes from concave down to concave up, and vice versa.

Please insert before "(Description of Symbols)" on page 11, line 3, these paragraphs:

Fig. 16 is a side plan drawing of an exemplary light reflection element according to the present invention illustrating the curvature of the peripheral section of the light reflection element.

Fig. 17 is a side plan drawing of a conventional prior art light reflection element.